



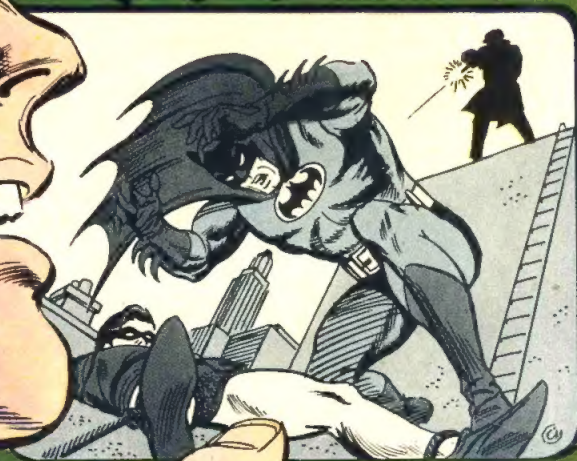
12¢

DETECTIVE COMICS

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

SEPT.
NO. 379

WITH **BATMAN**,
NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE!
I ORDERED HIM KILLED--
AND HE'S GETTING
BUMPED OFF IN TWO
DIFFERENT PLACES--
AT THE SAME TIME!



TV MONITOR

Be A Big Winner
JOIN SALES LEADERSHIP CLUB
Get Terrific **PRIZE** Awards
or Big **CASH** Awards



Where else can you get
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values in our **FREE** big
prize catalog!



EXTRA BONUS!

Free Gifts For
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- ★ **FREE ALBUM** of Actual Christmas Cards — Yours to Keep!
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- ★ **NO RISK — NO OBLIGATION — NO INVESTMENT!**

Be "In"
And
WIN!

Join The
Leader
NOW!

SALES
LEADERSHIP
CLUB,
Springfield,
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01101

**IT'S EASY TO GET FABULOUS PRIZES
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Enroll me as a member. Rush FREE Membership Card, Christmas Card Album, Prize Catalog and full details on how to earn prizes or cash.

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CUT ALONG DOTTED LINES — FILL IN & MAIL — NO STAMP NEEDED

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BATMAN

With **THE BOY WONDER**

"TWO KILLINGS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!"

ART: BOB BROWN & JOE GIELLA

DICK GRAYSON, RUNNING AWAY FROM HOME, HAS FALLEN IN WITH A YOUNG PUNK, CHINO... ALSO A RUNAWAY!

STORY: FRANK ROBBINS

WHY THE... ROBIN-MASQUERADE?

'CAUSE... USING YOU AS A DECOY... WE'RE GONNA PUT THE "HIT" ON BATMAN!

WHILE IN THE PENTHOUSE OF SALVO, CHINO'S GUARDIAN... ANOTHER MASQUERADE IS PLANNED!

AW, BOSS... Y'GOTTA BE KIDDIN'! ME... AS ROBIN?

YOU'LL PASS, CHOPPER! USIN' YOU AS BAIT... WITH DARKNESS AN' DISTANCE... BATMAN'LL BITE!

AND, WHEN THE BLACKMAIL NOTES ARE RECEIVED...

BOTH OF THESE COULD BE FAKES, ALFRED... OR... ONE COULD BE REAL!

BUT WHICH? WE'VE GOT TO MAKE A CHOICE!

...BATMAN AND ALFRED ARE FACED WITH A DEADLY DILEMMA!

AND WE CAN'T RISK YOUNG MASTER DICK'S LIFE... IN ANY CASE, SIR! OH-H, WHAT A DRE-ADFUL DECISION TO MAKE...!

MIDNIGHT AT PIER 21, CHINO'S BAITED TRAP!

NO, BATMAN... GO BACK!

Y'RE TOO LATE, DICK BABY...!

MIDNIGHT AT SALVO'S PENTHOUSE ROOF...THE SYNDICATE KING'S TRAP!

HOLD HER STEADY, PILOT... YII-H-H!

GOT 'IM, ICER... SHOOT!

WHAT DOUBLE-DECEPTION IS THIS? ONE DECOY IS THE REAL ROBIN... AND ONLY ONE BATMAN CAN BE THE MCCOY! WHICH IS WHICH?

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As *CAVING* OPENS UP ON THE HELPLESS DUO, *DICK (ROBIN) GRAYSON* STARTS TO PUMP HIS LEGS, LIKE A CHILD ON A SWING! THE CABLE OSCILLATES WILDLY, AS THEY SWING IN A WIDE ARC!

CAN'T GO UP
AND I WON'T
LEAVE YOU,
ROBIN!

THEN
HANG ON,
BATMAN...
WE'RE
TAKIN' A
LO-O-ONG
RIDE!

AS YOU
WOULD SAY,
DICK BABY...
"DANDY!"

ALWAYS DID
LIKE A...
MOVIN'
TARGET!
Y'ISURE
ARE A
SWINGER!

NEITHER...CAN...
I...I-I-EEEE!
CAN'T HOLD...
ON...

JUST A MATTER
...OF... TIME!
CAN'T ESCAPE
THOSE SLUGS
...FOREVER!

OR...WAS IT A CALCU-
LATED MANEUVER?

Y-YOU'RE ON
YOUR OWN NOW,
BATMAN...

HAS THE MAN WITH A
GRIP OF STEEL...
LOST HIS GRIP?

KA-RASH!

AS CHINO'S GUN
GOES SPINNING,
ROBIN SWINGS
HELPLESSLY...
A CAPTIVE
VIEWER TO THE
GRIM STRUGGLE
BEING WAGED!

HE **MUSTN'T**
GET THE GUN
... BACK!

SPLAT

WHO'S GONNA
STOP ME,
BATTY?
HOW'S THIS
FIR...
OPENERS!?

FINDERS...
KEEPERS!

DESPERATELY,
THE **CAPED**
CRUSADER
LEAPS AT
HIS RE-ARMED
OPPONENT AS...

BANG

AN' LOSERS...
WEEPERS! DROP DEAD...
BATMAN!

THE **GOTHAM**
GANGBUSTER
GOES UNDER
THE WILD
SHOT, BUT
COMES A
CROPPER
AS THE WILY
CHINO
SIDESTEPS...
AND STICKS
HIS LEGS OUT!...

CARE T'FLY
NOW... AN!
PAY LATER?

AND, BEFORE THE HORRIFIED EYES OF
THE HELPLESS **ROBIN**, THE **CAPED**
CRUSADER PLUNGES DOWN TO HIS DOOM!...

OH-H...
N-NO-O!

Y'CAMED OFF WITH... YUK! YUK!
... **FLYIN'** COLORS, DICK BABY!

PLAYED Y'IR
ROLE LIKE A
DOLL... EVEN
TA DISLODGIN'
BATMAN AND
SENDIN' HIM
MY WAY!

HE THINKS... I
HELPED... HIM?
OH-H... THAT
MISGUIDED--
ROTTEN
PUNK!

GET YA OUTA THAT BIND...
SOON'S I MAKE AN
IMPORTANT CALL!

PUBLIC
TELEPHONE

HULLO, SALVO? HI, BIG SHOT... THIS IS Y'IR "PUNK" KID, CHINO! YUK! YUK! FROM NOW ON Y'ITIP YER HAT TO ME!

YE-AH...? HOW'S AT?

I...JUS' **KNOCKED OFF--- BATMAN!**

Y-Y-YOU DID...? YOU...? OH-O-HO-HOO!

W-WHAT'S TH' **BIG LAUGH**, JOKER?

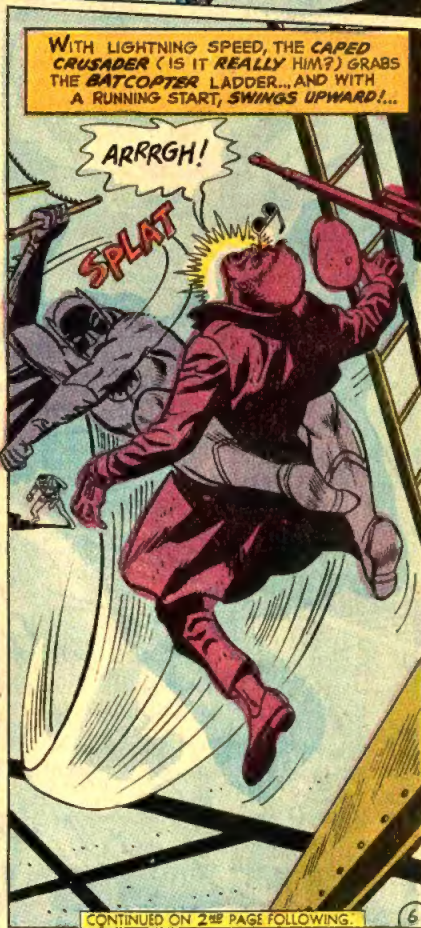
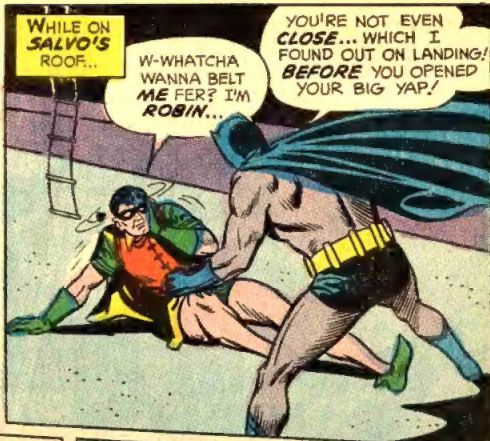
RIGHT NOW, SUCKER... **BATMAN'S LYING... DEAD AS A DOORNAIL... ON MY ROOF! OH-HOO! HA!**

SUDDENLY SALVO'S UNHOLY GLEE AND COMPLACENCY ARE SHAKEN, AS...

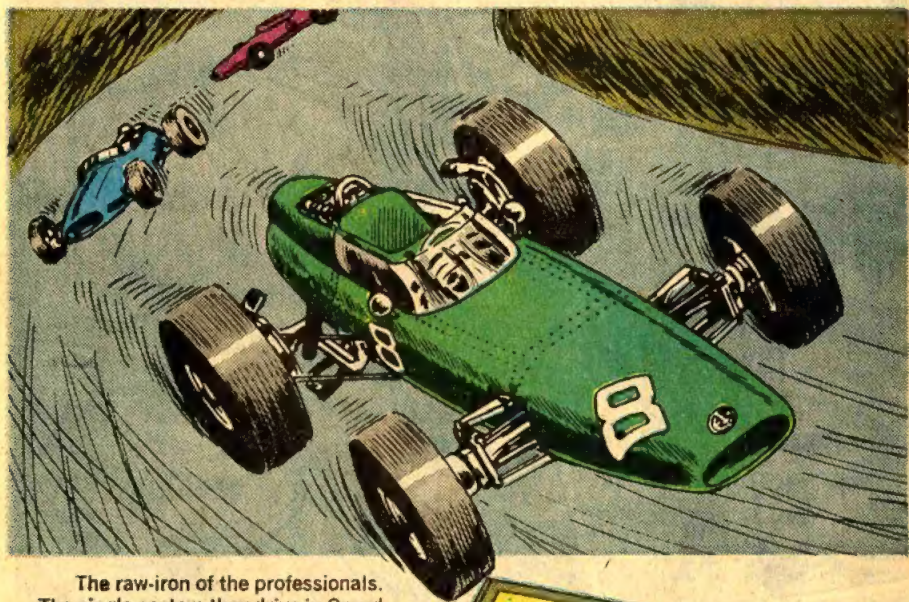
W-WHA...?! IT--IT **CAN'T BE...**!

YUK! YUK! I'LL **BET...** AS ALIVE AS THAT FISH-STORY Y' JUST TOL' ME!

H-HHE J-JUS' **CAME ALIVE!**



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CHOPPER SCOOPS UP
THE DROPPED
SNIPER-SCOPE, AND...

Y'VE COME
TA TH' **END**
OF Y'IR **ROPE...**
BATMAN!

CORRECTION,
CREEP...

... **WHATEVER**
GOES UP
MUST COME
DOWN!



SOMEHOW THAT
PUNK KID, **CHINO**,
LOUSED ME UP!
WE'VE **LOST**
BATMAN! OR...
WAS **THIS ONE**
THE **PHONEY---**
AND **CHINO'S**
THE **LEGIT?**

GOTTA GET TO
PIER 21... THE
REAL ROBIN
MUST BE THERE!

QUICKLY, SALVO
CALLS HIS GROGGY
COHORTS ON THE
ROOF ABOVE!

NOW HE-AR THIS!
YOU GOOF-OFFS
GET DOWN HERE...
SOONEST! WE'RE
GOING TO PIER 21!

AND MINUTES
LATER...

WHAT'S PLAYIN'
AT THE DOCKS,
BOSS?

A CREEP
KID... WHO'S
GOT IN MY
HAIR **ONCE**
TOO OFTEN!
CHINO HAS
GOTTA GO!

WHILE AT PIER 21...
CHINO PULLS THE
QUIETLY GRIEVING
DICK BACK TO
SAFETY...

Y'WERE A REAL
BUDDY, PAL... **HELPIN'**
ME GET RID O' **BATMAN!**
ONCE **SALVO** GETS HERE
AN' **VERIFIES** THE KILL...

... I COLLECT
THE **REWARD** TH'
SYNDICATE HAS
ON **BATMAN'S**
HEAD... AN'
SALVO COLLECTS
EGG ON HIS
FACE! YUK!

Y-YOU MEAN... YOU
KILLED A GUY LIKE...
F-FOR MONEY!?

IT WON'T BE THE
FIRST TIME, **ROBIN**
... BUT IF MORE
FOLLOWED THE
NOBLE MOTIVES
OF YOU AND **BAT-**
MAN... IT MIGHT
BE THE **LAST!**
SORRY FOR GETTING
SLOPPY, CHUMS... BUT
THIS IS **BREAK-TIME!**

STORY WRAPS UP ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING!

JULY, 1968

No Chicken Kamikaze

You've never heard of a chicken Kamikaze pilot. In fact, he had no chance for "change of mind." Once he was airborne, he was committed. He was locked into his plane so he couldn't bail out. Triggered bombs were bolted to his wings so he couldn't land without blowing up. So why not be a hero in your Zero? The newest Revell model is a realistic reproduction of the famous Kamikaze from Japan... the infamous Zero. Build it, and you can recreate history as you create a model. Only \$2.00.

There are 250 Revell models, ranging from 60c to \$15.00. For a complete catalog, send 25c to: Revell, Inc., 4238 Glencoe Avenue, Venice, California 90291



Model of the Month



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO ATTEND THE WEDDING
OF LOIS LANE AND SUPERMAN
IN THE GIANT LOIS LANE ISSUE
ON SALE JULY 11th,
AT YOUR NEWSDEALER!



SURE, KID... I RUBBED
OUT THE "BAT" FOR
MONEY! AN' GLORY!...
I'M A BIG MAN NOW!

YEAH? TO... WHOM?
THE CREEPS THAT
STEAL FROM
DECENT
CITIZENS?

CREEPS TA YOU...
HEROES TA ME,
DICK BABY!

AND SUDDENLY,
IN THE MIDDLE
OF THIS TENSE
CONFRONTATION...

WAIT'LL YOU SEE
THE PAY-OFF YOUR
"HEROES" GIVE
YOU, CHINO...

HOLD IT, KID...!
WHA... TH'
BATCOPTER?!

THEN, AS BATMAN DESCENDS TO INVESTI-
GATE ROBIN'S DISAPPEARANCE...

B-BATMAN... ?!
B-BUT... HOW COULD
IT BE?

D-DUNNO, BUT...
EVEN IF THEY
COME IN PAIRS
-- THIS ONE'S
BOUGHT IT!

UNWILLING TO LET THE SAME "KILLING"
HAPPEN TWICE, ROBIN ACTS SWIFTLY!

KCHUNK

BATMAN...
WATCH
OUT!

AS THE UNCONSCIOUS **CHINO** FLIPS OUT INTO SPACE... **BATMAN** MAKES A ONE-HANDED CATCH!

BATMAN... IT IS YOU!
ONLY YOU COULD HAVE--

THEN WHO WAS THE
OTHER **BATMAN**?

NO TIME
TO EXPLAIN
NOW...
WHERE
IS HE?

AL-FRED?!

DEEPLY REGRET, SIR!
FAILED MY MISSION!
POOR **ROBIN**...

IF YOU'LL WIPE THE
SEA-FOAM OUT OF
YOUR EYES, **ALFRED**--
YOU'LL SEE---

HE WENT INTO
THE WATER...
BETWEEN
THE SHIP
AND THE
PIER!

RIGHT ABOUT
HERE...

OH NO! HA! HA! FORGIVE
ME FOR... LAUGHING, **ROBIN**...

AND WHEN THE "POOR FISH" HAS BEEN BEACHED...

OH-H, MASTER **ROBIN!**
T-THEN I WAS NOT AN...
ABJECT FAILURE?

I **ABJECT**, ALFRED!
YOU'RE THE GREATEST
SUCCESS THIS SIDE
OF THE BRINY!

AND YOUR
SUBSTITUTING
FOR **ME**, ALFRED,
IN THE
BATMOBILE...

WHILE THEY TALK, **CHINO**, HEAD SPINNING, HEARS
NOTHING BUT A SMALL VOICE INSIDE TELLING
HIM TO **ESCAPE...**

...ENABLED ME TO
PUT THE **BATCOPTER**
ON AUTOMATIC-PILOT.
PRETENDING YOU
WERE AT THE
CONTROLS...

...AND CHECK OUT THE
OTHER "**ROBIN**" AS
A PHONEY! LUCKY I
TOOK THAT **SNIPER-
SLUG** IN MY
**BULLET-PROOF
VEST!**

AND AT THE SUDDEN ROAR OF
THE SUPERCHARGED TURBINE...

IT'S **CHINO!**
GOT TO STOP
HIM...

**QUICK...THE
BATCOPTER!**

WHILE BEHIND THE
WHEEL, A
SHAKEN BUT
STILL DEFIANT
BOY HEADS
OUT... WITH
NO DESTINATION
... NO HAVEN!

THAT DICK-CREEP
BUNGLED TH' WHOLE
OPERATION F'R ME!
NOW I'M **NUTTIN'**
AGAIN... AN'
EVEN SALVO'S
SORE AT ME!
W-WHERE DO
I GO...?

A QUESTION
THAT'LL **NEVER**
BE ANSWERED,
AS... FROM A
WATERFRONT
SIDE-STREET...
SALVO'S CAR
ROARS OUT!
JAMMING ON
HIS POWER-
DISC-BRAKES,
CHINO
SCREAMS TO
A PANIC-STOP,
AND...

**S-SALVO...?!
N-NOW I'M...
COOKED!**

TH' PUNK
KID...HE'S
LAMMING!
HIT HIM...

SCREEECH



'M-MUST BE TRYIN' TO
...SCARE ME! G-GOOD
OL' SALVO WOULDN'T
HURT ME... ALMOST
L-LIKE A SON
TO HIM!

HOW D'YA WANT IT,
MR. SALVO... CLEAN
AN' SWEET, OR...

JUS' DROP 'IM, I CER--
I'LL FINISH 'IM! NO
YOUNG CREEP MAKES
A MONKEY OUTA TH'...
KING!



AN INADVERTENT FALL SAVES CHINO FOR THE MOMENT
...AS HIS "DOTING GUARDIANS" OPEN UP!



T-THEY'RE...
FOR REAL!

AS IF IN AN ANSWER FROM HEAVEN...
THE BATCOPTER APPEARS! BATMAN
QUICKLY SIZES UP THE GRIM SITUATION, AND...



'YOU TWO GO IN
FIRST! THE PUNK
MAY HAVE AN IRON!

WHATCHA
LOOKIN'
AT...?

U-UP
THERE,
BOSS...

ROBIN, PREPARE
FOR...MASS ARREST!

AND SUDDENLY,
AS HE COWERS
IN AN ALLEY,
THE "BIG MAN"
TURNS INTO A
FRIGHTENED,
WHIMPERING
...CHILD!

M-MY ADOPTED...
DAD... TRYIN' TO...
K-KILL ME! IT
CAN'T BE... WHAT'D
I DO TA HIM...?
P-PLEASE SOMEONE
...HELP ME...



BEWILDERED BY THE ATTACKING NOCTURNAL HABBER, THE "BRAVE" ADULT-DELINQUENTS CLUSTER TOGETHER, FORMING AN EASY TARGET FOR...

RIGHTO, BATMAN... IT'S THE BATNET FOR THESE HUMAN SHARKS!

SHADDUP... CRUMBS!

AN' WE PUT A PRICE... ON HIS HEAD?!

MOMENTS LATER... IT IS ALL OVER! AND AS BATMAN TENDERLY LEADS A CRUSHED BOY FROM HIS VULNERABLE HIDING PLACE...

IF I HADN'T FOLLOWED YOU UP, YOUNGSTER... YOU'D HAVE ENDED YOUR SHORT, SWEET LIFE IN THAT DIRTY ALLEY... LIKE *MANY* BEFORE YOU!

I-I'M A NO-GOOD CREEP! I-I DESERVE ANY-THIN! SOB! ANYTHIN! YA DO T'ME! SOB! :

M-ME TOO, BATMAN! I-I HELPED HIM... I-I SHOULD BE IN JAIL FOR IMPERSONATING ROBIN!

SOMEHOW, I THINK YOU'VE BOTH LEARNED YOUR LESSON... TWO KILLINGS... FOR THE PRICE OF ONE--

--IS NO BARGAIN; WHEN THE PAY-OFF IS A LIFETIME IN JAIL! I'LL SEE IF I CAN SWING MY WEIGHT TO GET YOU CLEMENCY!

LATER AT
COMMISSIONER
GORDON'S
OFFICE...

I APPRECIATE YOUR
CO-OPERATION, SIR... IN
VIEW OF THE UNUSUAL
CIRCUMSTANCES! IF YOU
COULD SEE THAT **DICK
GRAYSON** IS RETURNED
TO HIS GUARDIAN,
BRUCE WAYNE...

NO TROUBLE, **BATMAN**! AND
DESPITE THE FACT THAT THIS
LAD, **CHINO**, WENT PRETTY
FAR OUT...

... I RESPECT YOUR
JUDGMENT... AND
DICK'S PLEAS ON HIS
BEHALF! I'VE FOL-
LOWED THROUGH
ON YOUR SUGGESTION,
BATMAN...

...AND LOCATED
A WORTHY COUPLE---
WHO LOST THEIR
ONLY SON A YEAR
AGO! WOULD BE
ABOUT THE SAME
AGE AS **CHINO**
NOW, IF HE'D...

MR. AND MRS. CHAMPION...
WOULD YOU COME IN,
PLEASE? THIS IS...
CHINO!

N-NAW... Y'RE
KIDDIN'?

THE COURT
HAS AGREED
TO GRANT HIM
PAROLE IN
YOUR
CUSTODY...

WELL... I CAN
SEE OUR **FIRST**
JOB IS CUT
OUT FOR US,
EH, HENRY?
"KIDDIN'"...
INDEED!

NOW, MOTHER... DON'T CLIMB
ALL OVER THE LAD'S BACK
FIRST TIME OUT! HE'LL
POLISH UP HIS ENGLISH...
IN TIME!

M-MAYBE I
DON'T SAY THIS
RIGHT... BUT, IN
TIME... I'LL
MAKE YA
**PROUD-A-
ME!**

AND LATER, AT
THE WAYNE
MANSION...

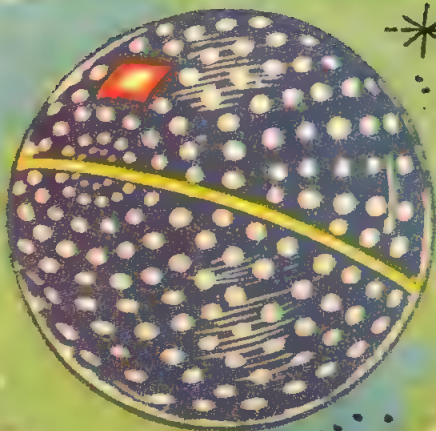
SORRY TO BE
BACK, DICK? PRETTY
EXCITING WORLD OUT
THERE... FOR A YOUNG
FELLOW!

EXCITING ISN'T THE
WORD, BRUCE... DOWNRIGHT
DANGEROUS! GUESS YOU
"OVER-THIRTIES" DO
HAVE **SOMETHING** TO
CONTRIBUTE TO US
TEENERS--BESIDES
GIVING US A GOOD
HOME...

THE
LIVING(?)
END

EXPLORER XIX

This balloon-like satellite is one of many designed to measure the thickness of air above the earth. It went up about 1,490 miles and orbited around the earth. Explorer XIX sent back information by radio signal which helped scientists understand what "thin" air could do to a spacecraft at different heights. Energy for this radio came from a rechargeable storage battery inside the satellite and a row of solar or sun-powered cells on the outside.



CHEERIOS KID

This is the Cheerios Kid, whose energy comes from Cheerios! Like satellites, and like you, he needs go-power every day. A breakfast with Cheerios and milk is packed with muscle-building protein and energy for go-power. Get yourself Go. Get Cheerios!

BATMAN'S HOT-LINE

Dear Editor:

"*Hunt for a Robin-Killer*" in the April *Detective* was enhanced by its inside illustrations, which added to the aura of revengeful hate emanating from *Batman*. This artwork was the first thing that struck me as I opened the magazine to the first page, seeing the homicidal eyes and partial face peering first at the reader, then at *Robin*, all under the masterful, emotion-interpreting art of the Kane-Greene team. Multiplying that effect was the use of both creative and varied-action scenes, lending the reader a feeling of involvement in the story. Also to be noted is the portrayal of an avenging *Masked Manhunter*, proclaiming to the world, "*I—killed Robin!*"—and renewing his decades-old vow against all crimedom.

While without Gardner Fox's literary abilities this tale could not have come out as successfully as it did, it may be possible: there is room for some improvement, or at best, modification. I found (and this may well be my lone, isolated opinion) that on a second reading, and only then, did I actually take in Fox's narrative caption! This is due in part to the fact that the actual plot lends itself to getting to the essence of each panel's action, then quickly pulling the reader to the next, and so on. It makes for fabulous suspense-filled reading, but a greater part of the description is wasted.

This narrative will be imprinted in the minds of *Batmen* as the story in which the *Gotham Gangbuster* was truly depicted as being human. Above all, it showed *Batman* as a man whose judgment, like that of most men, can be affected all too often by emotion.

—Max Southall, Kitchener, Ont., Can.

(Except for a few picaresque (a word derived from a Spanish coin worth about 6¢; hence signifying the April *Detective* was worth only half its selling price) protests, "*Hunt for a Robin-Killer*" won critical acclaim as one of the outstanding *Batman* stories ever published. We have great expectations for at least an equally favorable reception to this issue's Frank Robbins-Bob Brown *Batmasterpiece*! — Editor)

Dear Editor:

"*Hunt for a Robin-Killer*" can only be termed "outstanding"! It was by far the most realistic and believable episode in the life of *Batman* that I have yet been privileged to behold. An aura of realism hung over the story and permeated the proceedings. Author Gardner Fox is not generally noted for such an expressive use of human emotions (his forte is sci-fi and mystery yarns), but this story is illustrative of his mastery of human feelings and mental conflicts. Witness, for example, the sheer hatred of the *Boy Wonder* expressed by the villain, even to the point of insane murder without warning. Witness also the blind rage of *Batman* as he pursues and attacks mercilessly the man who attempted the murder of his ward. This is the type of stuff that should be shown more often in comics: blind hatred and rage.

In summing up the literary aspects of the story, I would like to say that this is the type of yarn that *Batman* (and all super-heroes, for that matter) need more of. These men who prance around in outrageous costumes are not infallible; in fact they are more likely to be in error than others of us, for the very nature of the business they are in (I make it sound as if it were a 9-5 vocation) dictates that they are forced to act swiftly, apprehending criminals

with the minimum of danger and/or swift damage to either themselves or those around them. In such a way, they are more fallible, although most of the super-heroes I have known (figuratively) have been noted for their logical analytical minds.

—Jeff Pierce, Stanford, Cal.

Dear Editor:

Batman is becoming human, for wasn't that real anger which we saw in the April *Detective Comics*? Yes, after what I assume was a considerable amount of badgering, you've begun the humanization of *Batman* that is long overdue.

"*Hunt for a Robin-Killer*" contained emotional conflict (the scene in the bar-room when *Batman* first confronts his suspect was great), nifty conversation between *Batman* and the doctor, *Batman's* lie to *Robin*, *Condors'* threat of suing *Batman* (a gem), and the revival of the air of mystery which fits *Batman* so well. I practically applauded when I saw the panel wherein the three crooks stare in horror at the oncoming bat-shadow, and the beautiful night scenes uncluttered with falsetto humor.

Actually, my only complaint about the story was its length—the wrap-up seems kinda rushed. Perhaps this once you might have omitted the *Elongated Man* story in order to show *Batman* bemoaning his carelessness, arguing with Commissioner Gordon, or sitting up as Bruce Wayne, consumed by guilt and worry.

Oh, well, it was great anyway. And keep the mystery angle for *Batman*! It's really his bag!

—Dennis Palumbo, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Editor:

"*Hunt for a Robin-Killer*" finally brought back some of the old flavor that many *Batmaniacs* have screamed for for so long. I actually hoped *Batman* would beat the tar out of *Robin's* would-be killer, especially after I saw how bad *Robin* was beaten up. It makes you realize that some criminals are sadists who deserve to be pursued and apprehended by the most terrifying mortal crimedom has ever known—*Batman*!

—Dave Truesdale, S. St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Editor:

Oh how could you? How could you go and ruin a great story? The cover of "*Hunt for a Robin-Killer*" was fantastic—but the inside story! It started out great and evoked excitement. Imagine *Robin* getting so badly beaten that he has to be hospitalized!

The first three pages—the art was sensational, but when *Batman* shows up and finds *Robin* on the ground—well that *Bat-pic* wasn't the greatest. The face could have been drawn better, and when *Batman* brought *Robin* to the hospital, the doctor looked happy! From then on the story was a . . . a . . . a flop! It ended as a big, fat dud! I'm very disappointed in you—for you always (?) turn out great *Batman* stories!

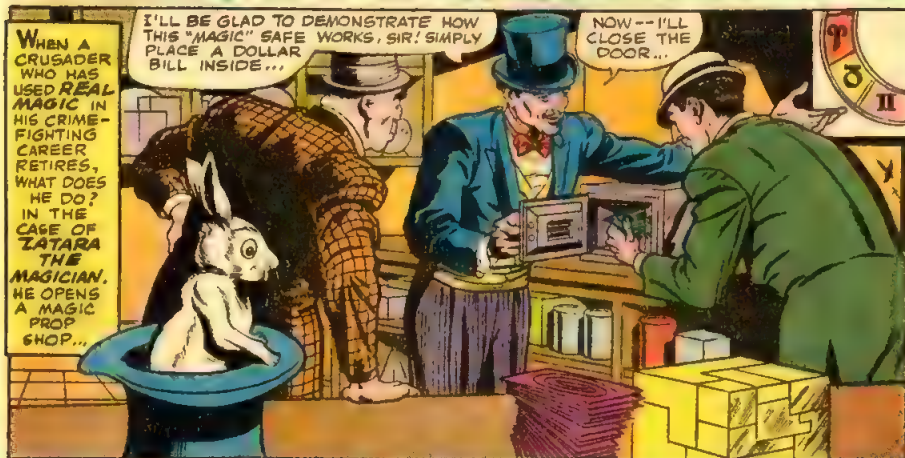
—Brenda Pandozzi, Cranston, R.I.

Address communications to BATMAN'S HOT-LINE
National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Ave.,
New York, N.Y., 10022.

STORY
BY:
GARDNER
FOX

The ELONGATED Man

ART
BY:
SID
GREENE

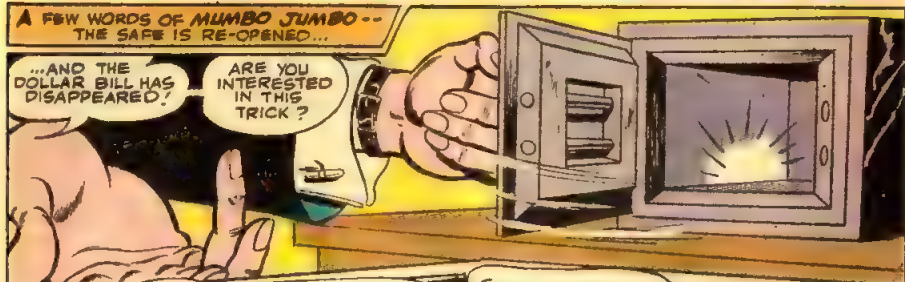


WHEN A CRUSADER WHO HAS USED REAL MAGIC IN HIS CRIME-FIGHTING CAREER RETIRES, WHAT DOES HE DO? IN THE CASE OF LATARA THE MAGICIAN, HE OPENS A MAGIC PROP SHOP...

I'LL BE GLAD TO DEMONSTRATE HOW THIS "MAGIC" SAFE WORKS, SIR! SIMPLY PLACE A DOLLAR BILL INSIDE...

NOW--I'LL CLOSE THE DOOR...

A FEW WORDS OF MUMBO JUMBO--
THE SAFE IS RE-OPENED...



...AND THE DOLLAR BILL HAS DISAPPEARED!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THIS TRICK?

WE SURE ARE!
ONLY YOU'RE GOING TO SHOW US HOW TO PULL THE STUNT OF MAKING MONEY DISAPPEAR OUT OF A BANK VAULT-- AND POP RIGHT INTO OUR HANDS!



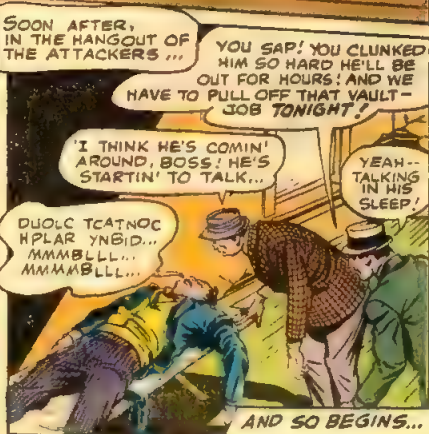
SOON AFTER, IN THE HANGOUT OF THE ATTACKERS...

YOU SAP! YOU CLUNKED HIM SO HARD HE'LL BE OUT FOR HOURS! AND WE HAVE TO PULL OFF THAT VAULT-JOB TONIGHT!

I THINK HE'S COMIN' AROUND, BOSS! HE'S STARTIN' TO TALK...

YEAH-- TALKING IN HIS SLEEP!

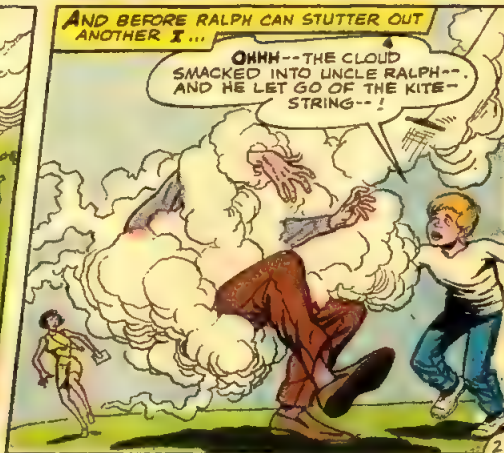
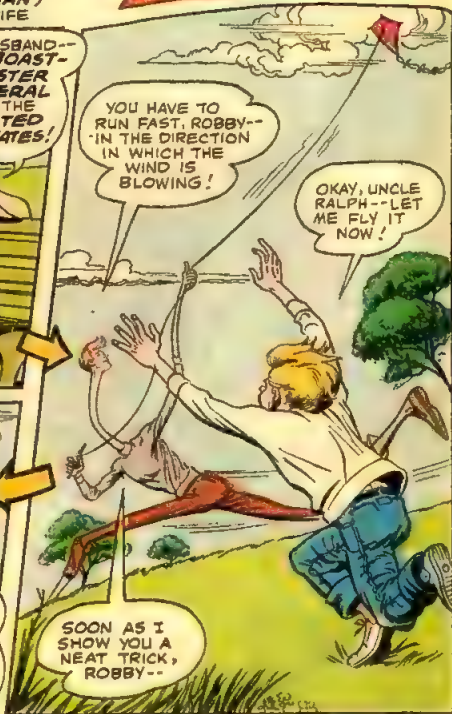
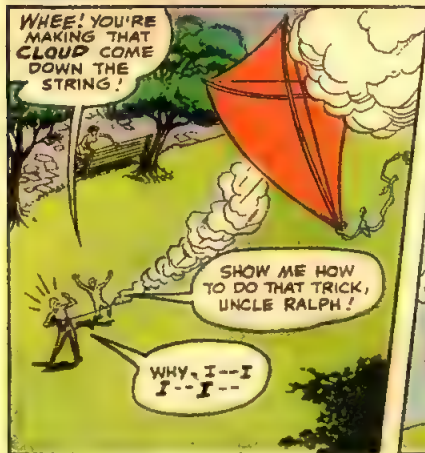
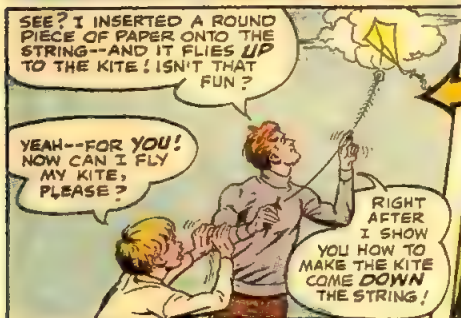
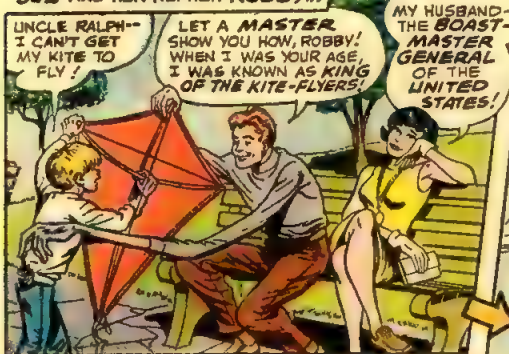
DUOLC TCATNOC
HPLAR YNBID...
MMMBLL...
MMMBLL...

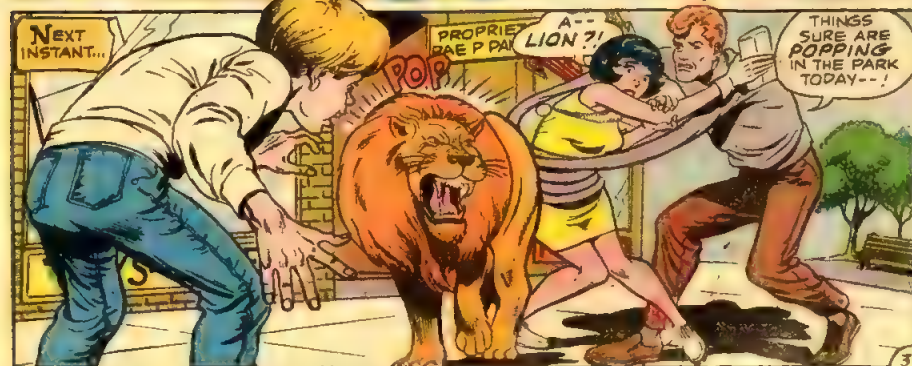
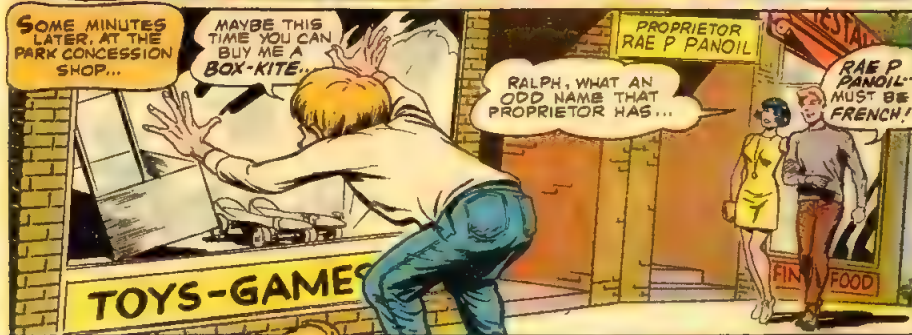
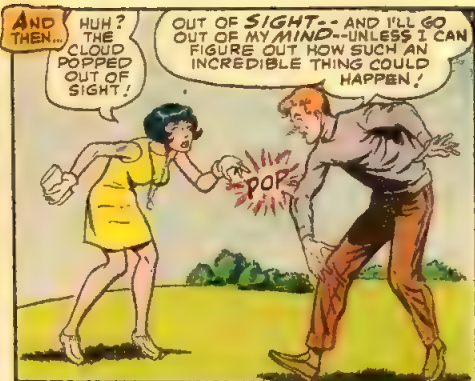


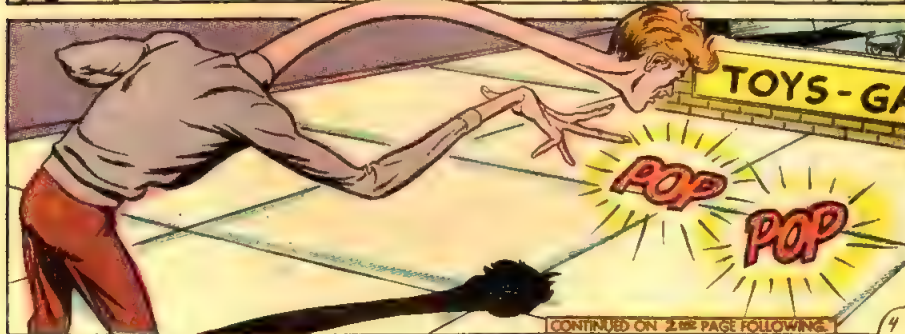
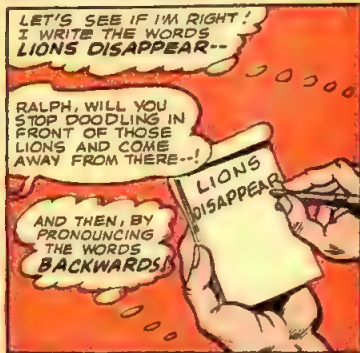
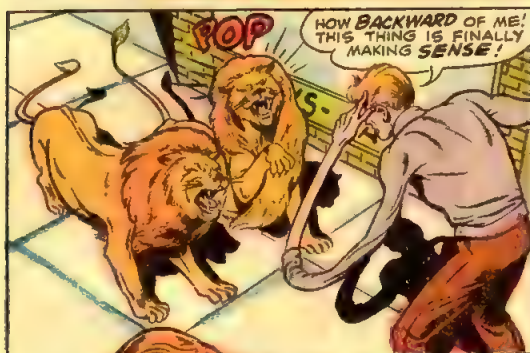
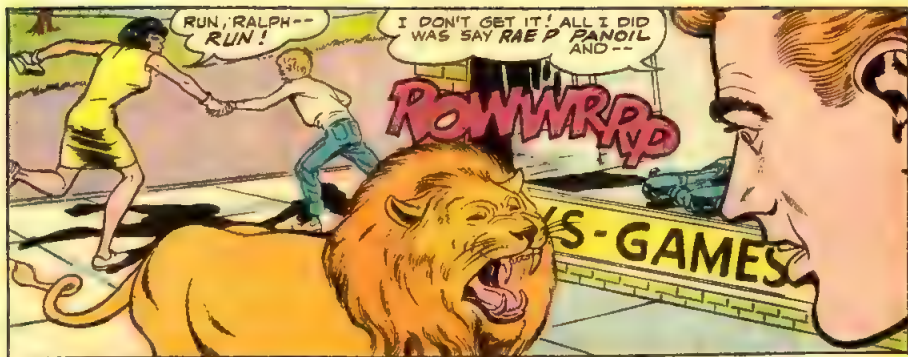
AND SO BEGINS...

The Elongated Man's MAGIC MOMENT!

A MOMENT WHICH FINDS RALPH (ELONGATED MAN) DIBBY IN SHORE CITY PARK, ALONG WITH HIS WIFE SUE AND HER NEPHEW ROBBY...

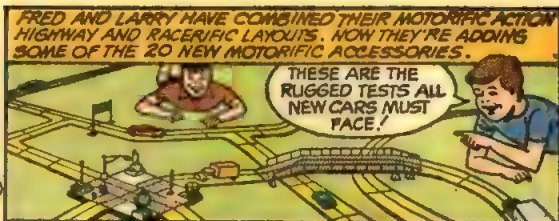
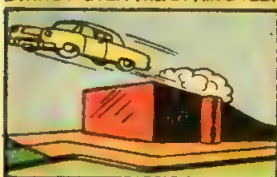






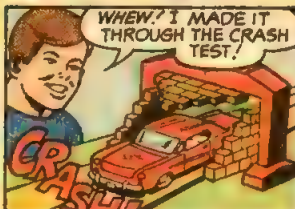
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FRED AND LARRY HAVE COMBINED THEIR MOTORIFIC ACTION HIGHWAY AND RACERIFIC LAYOUTS. NOW THEY'RE ADDING SOME OF THE 20 NEW MOTORIFIC ACCESSORIES.

THESE ARE THE RUGGED TESTS ALL NEW CARS MUST FACE!

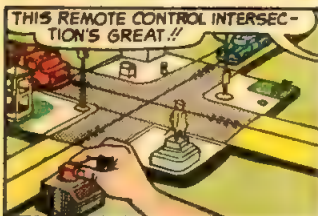


WHEW! I MADE IT THROUGH THE CRASH TEST!

CRASH!

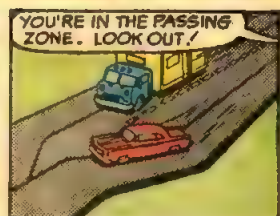
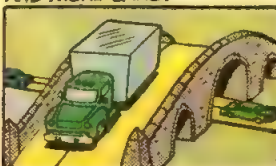


HEY! THE CORNERING TEST IS MAKING MY CAR DIZZY!



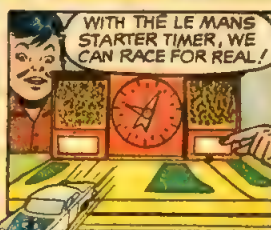
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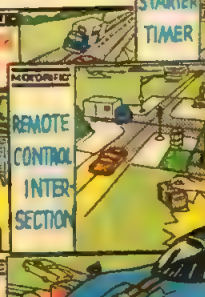
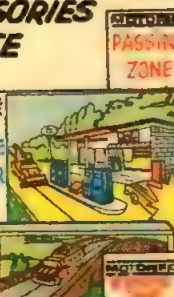
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LE MANS STARTER TIMER

REMOTE CONTROL INTERSECTION

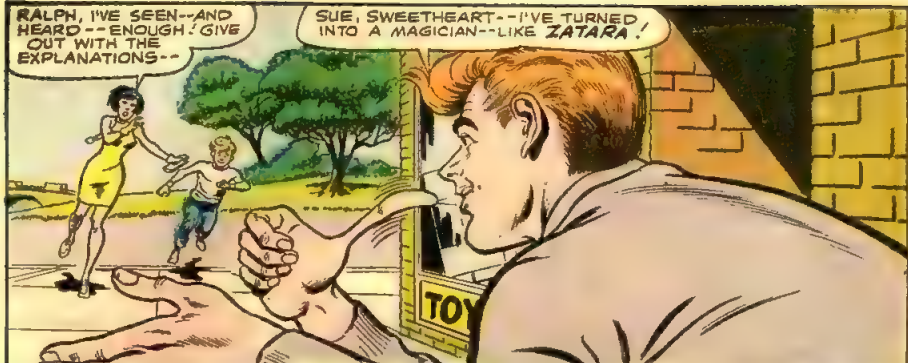
CORNERING TEST



IDEAL

RALPH, I'VE SEEN--AND HEARD--ENOUGH--GIVE OUT WITH THE EXPLANATIONS--

SUE, SWEETHEART--I'VE TURNED INTO A MAGICIAN--LIKE ZATARA!



THE SAME ONE WHOSE SHOP YOU TOOK ROBBY AND ME TO THIS MORNING?

HE AMUSED YOU WITH A COUPLE OF "TRICKS"--BUT WHAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW WAS THAT HE DID THEM WITH REAL MAGIC--BY PRONOUNCING HIS WORDS BACKWARDS!

SOMEHOW--FOR SOME REASON I'VE GOT TO DETERMINE--I'VE BECOME MAGIC-GIFTED THE SAME WAY!

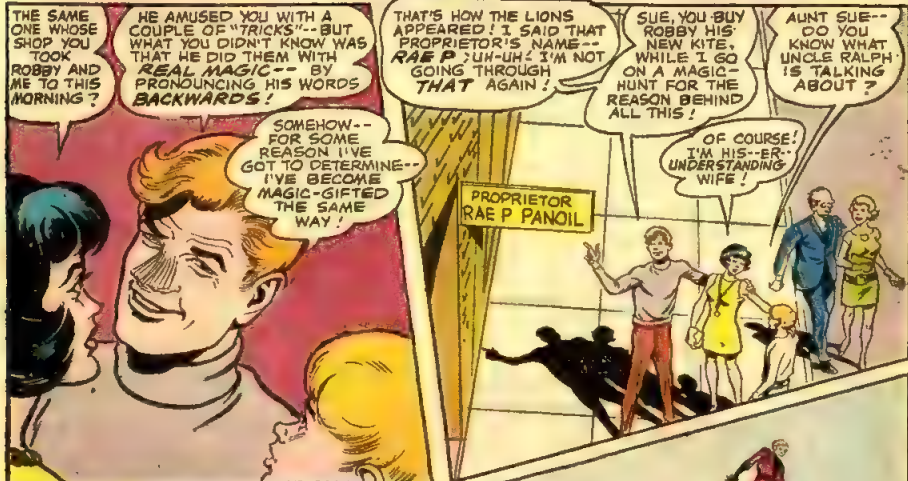
THAT'S HOW THE LIONS APPEARED! I SAID THAT PROPRIETOR'S NAME--RAE P--UH-UH--I'M NOT GOING THROUGH THAT AGAIN!

SUE, YOU BUY ROBBY HIS NEW KITE, WHILE I GO ON A MAGIC-HUNT FOR THE REASON BEHIND ALL THIS!

AUNT SUE--DO YOU KNOW WHAT UNCLE RALPH IS TALKING ABOUT?

OF COURSE! I'M HIS--ER--UNDERSTANDING WIFE!

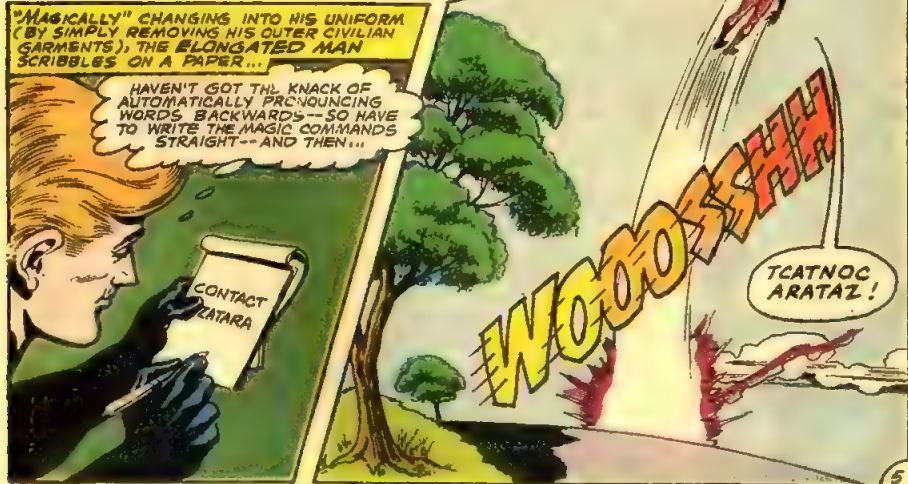
PROPRIETOR
RAE P PANCIL



"MAGICALLY" CHANGING INTO HIS UNIFORM (BY SIMPLY REMOVING HIS OUTER CIVILIAN GARMENTS), THE ELONGATED MAN SCRIBBLES ON A PAPER...

HAVEN'T GOT THE KNACK OF AUTOMATICALLY PRONOUNCING WORDS BACKWARDS--SO HAVE TO WRITE THE MAGIC COMMANDS STRAIGHT--AND THEN...

CONTACT
ZATARA



AN INSTANT LATER,
WITH THE THUD OF
HEAD ON HEAD...

SROTCUDBA--
UHHNN!

THWUNNK

HEY,
WHO--?

HEY,
WHAT--?

WHEW! I
SURE
MADE
CONTACT!

SO HARD, I KNOCKED
OUT ZATARA!

THE ELONGATED
MAN! HE MUSTVE
CAUGHT ONTO
OUR SCHEME--

BUT WE
AIN'T
GONNA
STAY
CAUGHT!

GUN HIM DOWN BEFORE
HE PULLS ANY OF HIS
STRETCHING TRICKS--!

JOE FLOOD!
I'VE SEEN
ENOUGH WANTED
POSTERS ON HIM--!

PSOT!
OD TON
TOOSH!

THAT'LL STOP
'EM FROM
SHOOTING--

HA! HA! HE'S SO
GROGGY HE CAN'T
TALK STRAIGHT!

IT DIDN'T WORK! I MUST'VE
SAID THE MAGIC WORDS
WRONG!

BLAMM

BLAMM

I'LL
GIVE IT
ANOTHER
TRY!

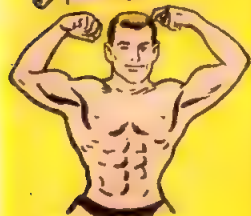
TOO GROGGY
FROM THAT HEAD-
COLLISION TO
ELONGATE
EFFECTIVELY--
SO I'LL USE MY
MAGIC POWERS
AGAINST THOSE
GUNMEN!

CONTINUED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING.

BOYS, MEN, BUILD, DEVELOP MIGHTY MUSCLES



WATCH THOSE
MUSCLES GROW
AND BULGE!



WIN THE ADMIRATION
OF YOUR FRIENDS!

**Add Power and Punch to Your Arms
Become the Strongman in the Crowd!**

FROM COVER TO COVER THIS BOOK
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It shows you how you can experience the thrill of being vigorously strong and healthy.
For the first time you become aware that body building can be real fun... so fun-filling you'll hardly notice the passing of time. Things that are especially difficult for you today will be accomplished tomorrow.
You'll be filled with pride as you see husky muscles grow and ripple over your body in paths of power.
You can measure your results daily in competition with your friends. The pal who before could handle you with ease, will get the surprise of his life as you handle him easier than he ever did you.
The tricks of self-defense you learn will amaze your friends. The Back-Flips, Somersaults and Handstands will delight them. You'll be the pride and envy of everyone. Enjoy the fun of getting fit, and staying fit. Enjoy the fun of being "tops" in any company and in any physical emergency.
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ONLY
\$1.00
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MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY!

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\$1.00 EACH. I ENCLOSE \$ _____ (AMOUNT)

NAME _____

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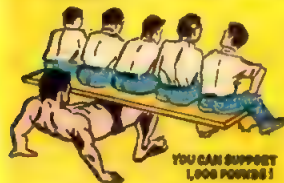
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HOW TO DO STRONG MAN TRICKS

**...WITHOUT STRENGTH!
FREE 30 day trial proves it to you!**



YOU CAN SUPPORT
1,000 POUNDS!

NO SUPER-POWER NEEDED
WHEN YOU KNOW THESE
AMAZING SECRETS!

- ★ Tear telephone book in half
- ★ Lift weights with one finger
- ★ Tear deck of cards in half
- ★ Lift man overhead with one hand
- ★ Bend heavy spikes with your hands

Now, regardless of your present strength, you can entertain the crowds and amaze your friends with STRONG MAN STUNTS that make you feel like a SUPERMAN.
It's so easy - when you know how. There's an easy trick to doing every BAFILING STUNT and you can PROVE it to yourself, as our guest, for the next 30 days. Unless you are brooding planks, lifting huge weights, driving nails with your flat and WINNING new admirations - in 30 days, return the complete POWER-PACKED Strong Man's Course and your money back. Fair enough? ONLY because we know YOU can achieve these miracles, do so make such a BAFILING offer.
Whom admire and most respect a person with strength. DON'T BE BULLIED - gain this new POWER and become

the invincible leader. Remember - you don't need muscles, you don't have to be strong and big! All you need is the "KNOW HOW" to perform these MIRACLES of fame, school, on the beach, at work, at parties - wherever you are, in 10 minutes you'll be a master of baffling STRONG MAN STUNTS! The complete illustrated Course shows you step-by-step how to get on the "read-o-popularity" and gain the RESPECT you want. Send \$1.00 today and get ready to be the "strongest" you can be!



BREAK PLANK WITH
YOUR BARE HANDS!

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MAIL TODAY!

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SEND ME MY ILLUSTRATED BOOK ON HOW TO DO STRONG MAN TRICKS, I UNDERSTAND THAT IF I AM NOT COMPLETELY SATISFIED WITHIN 30 DAYS MY MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED.

☐ ENCLOSED IS MY \$1.00 ☐ TWO BOOKS FOR ONLY \$1.98
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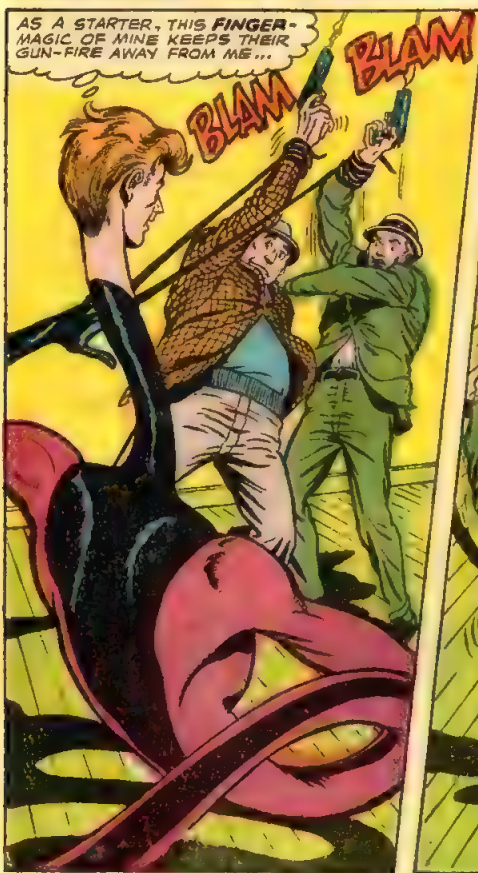
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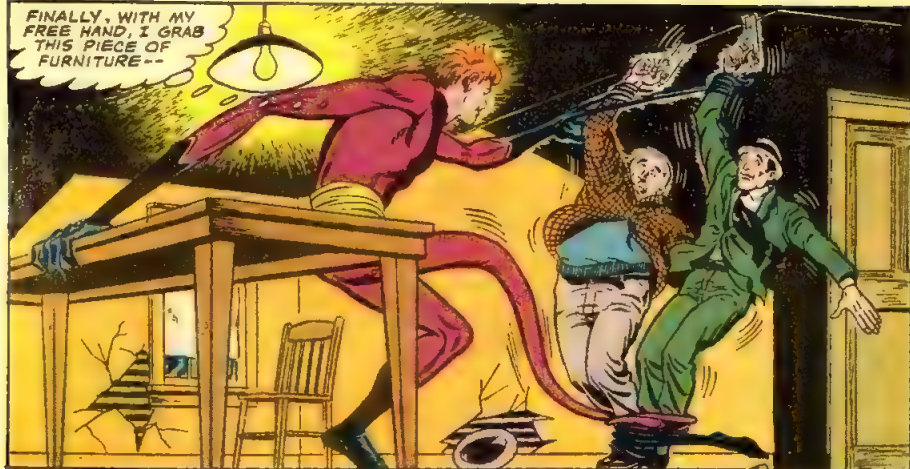
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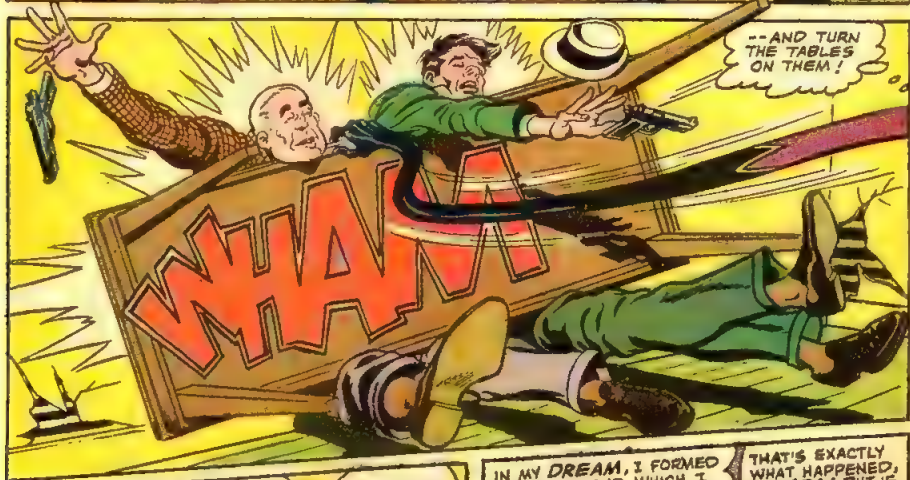
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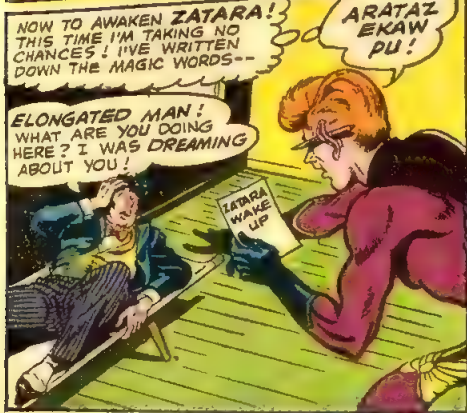




FINALLY, WITH MY FREE HAND, I GRAB THIS PIECE OF FURNITURE--



--AND TURN THE TABLES ON THEM!

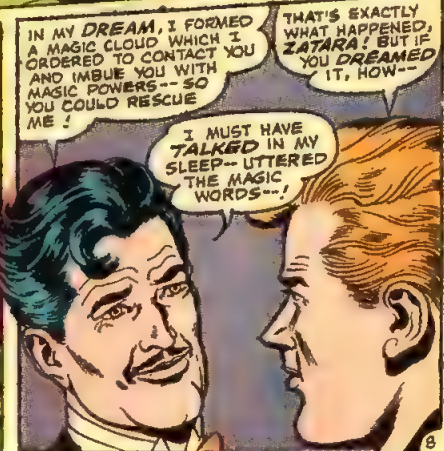


NOW TO AWAKEN ZATARA!
THIS TIME I'M TAKING NO CHANCES! I'VE WRITTEN DOWN THE MAGIC WORDS--

ARATAZ
EKAW
PU!

ELONGATED MAN!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? I WAS DREAMING ABOUT YOU!

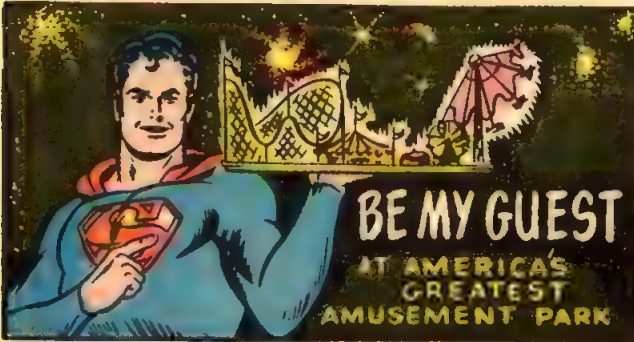
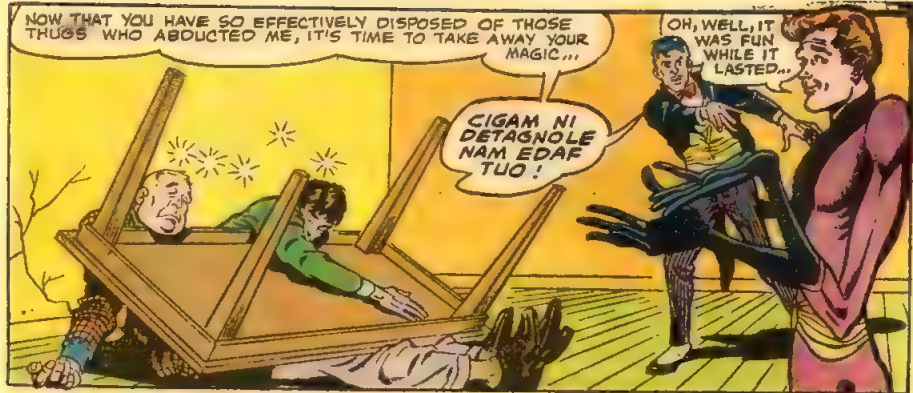
ZATARA
WAKE UP



IN MY DREAM, I FORMED A MAGIC CLOUD WHICH I ORDERED TO CONTACT YOU AND IMBUE YOU WITH MAGIC POWERS--SO YOU COULD RESCUE ME!

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HAPPENED, ZATARA! BUT IF YOU DREAMED IT, HOW--

I MUST HAVE TALKED IN MY SLEEP--UTTERED THE MAGIC WORDS--!



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AMUSEMENT PARK N.J.

1/2 MILE SOUTH OF GEORGE WASHINGTON BRIDGE



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130
COMPLETE LINE
SERVICES

Each minute could seem as eternity as you leave the woods edge and run for the protection of the houses. But out in the open, one false step could be your last. That strange feeling in your guts is back - but you see your hand rise and hear your voice cry, MOVE OUT - ATTACK!

WOODS EDGE GAME

You're poised on a wooded slope overlooking a strange desolated town. It was peaceful as a post card until you spotted enemy troops marching in. Now this town will be torn apart as it becomes the arena for this house to house battle.

YOU RECEIVE - A COMPLETE GAME
88 FIGHTING MEN in all battle positions and fully equipped with. Back packs, field glasses, helmets, canteens, rifles, grenades, mortars and shells, machine guns, bayonets or flame throwers. All in 3-D unbreakable plastic.

A HUGE BATTLEFIELD: A complete town with buildings and roads leading from the woods edge to its "heart" - Town Hall

COMBAT CALCULATOR - to determine troop casualties - advances - retreats
SIMPLE DIRECTIONS FOR COMMANDERS & TO

EXPLODING BRIDGES ACTUALLY BLOW APART RIGHT OFF THE RIVER

you Receive -

A COMPLETE GAME

- A GIANT 3 SQUARE FOOT PLASTIC BATTLEFIELD in color, depicting Chickamauga, the most of death, appropriately named
- 1 HUGELY REALISTIC CONFEDERATE STOCKADE FORT
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- 2 ARMIES - 64 Troops in Blue and Gray, fully equipped and in all battle positions
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- 300+ pieces of equipment to cross the battlefield with enough men and equipment to attack and capture the enemy fort
- 3 D realistic safe and reusable

2 FORTS
SPARTAN

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Cosmash, New York 11725

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- ☐ WOODS EDGE COMPLETE GAME \$1.30
- ☐ SPECIAL II Complete game plus 88 extra soldiers (total of 176 soldiers) \$2.00
- ☐ CANNON BALL COMPLETE GAME \$2.00
- ☐ SPECIAL II Complete game plus 3 exploding bridges 2 sentry posts - 6 soldiers - 3 cannons \$2.50

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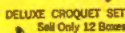
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BLUE-GRAY
THIS GAME IS DEDICATED TO FIGHTING HEROES OF CHICKAMAUGA



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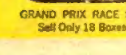
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GET BIG PRIZES OR CASH!

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TWO-MAN RUBBER BOAT
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**EARN
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FOLK TUNE GUITAR
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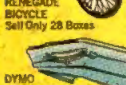
TYCO H O TRAIN SET
Sell Only 14 Boxes



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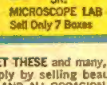
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DYMO LABELMAKER
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YOU CAN GET THESE and many, many other big prizes — or cash — simply by selling beautiful Olympic IMPRINTED CHRISTMAS AND ALL-OCCASION CARDS. The Olympic way is the *IN* way! Here's why...

OLYMPIC SAMPLE BOOK IS FREE! It contains samples of fast-selling Olympic cards — and it's yours to keep. We don't send you boxes of cards in advance. With Olympic, you never have to worry about paying for, or returning, boxes you don't sell.

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IT'S EASY TO JOIN OLYMPIC! Just fill in and mail the coupon! We'll send you the free Sample Book and the free Catalog of Prizes. There's **ABSOLUTELY NO COST TO YOU!** Don't wait... join now... it's easy!

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Enroll me as a member without dues or ANY obligation. Send me the FREE catalog of prizes, FREE book of sample cards — all of which I can keep — together with complete details on how to get prizes or cash the easy Olympic way.

MY NAME Point clearly

ADDRESS

CITY

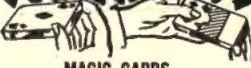
STATE ZIP

HERE'S A WHOLE TREASURE CHEST OF FUN



THROW YOUR VOICE

Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Instrument fits in your mouth out of sight. Fool teacher, friends, family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist." No. 137 25c



MAGIC CARDS

Deck is marked and stripped. Can be read from the back but looks like ordinary deck. With instructions for 10 terrific tricks. No. 183 \$1.98

SURPRISE PACKAGE



Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth. No. 676 Only 50c

JACK POT BANK

Dime-operating Jack Pot Bank works like the one armed bandit in Las Vegas. Deposit the dime and spin the handle. Reels spin and look like the real stuff. Dimes are removable. Should not be used for gambling purposes. No. 2060 1.98



SKIN HEAD WIG

Most people try to grow hair. This is just the opposite. Made of flesh toned latex will fit all heads. For the executive that would like to change his appearance. A35 \$1.00

UNBEATABLE SELF DEFENSE MADE EASY

KETSUGO

ONLY \$100

The powerful choice secrets of: Karate, Aikido, Ate-Waza, Judo, Yawara, Jiu Jitsu, Savate. REDUCE ANY ASSAULT TO CRINGING HELPLESSNESS IN SECONDS

Learn by yourself in just one week. No matter how small you are you can walk with confidence—fear no man. No. 224 \$1.00



BOOMERANG

Something new in target throwing. In case you miss, it comes right back to you, and bingo! you're set to "fire" again. More fun than a "barrel of monkeys." No. 141 75c



SMOKE BOMBS

Light one and watch the column of thick, white smoke rise to the ceiling and expand into a dense cloud. Sensational surprising effect. No. 971 20c



JOY BUZZER

Most popular joke novelty in years! Wind up and wear it like a ring. When you shake hands, it almost raises the victim off his feet with a "shocking sensation." Absolutely harmless. No. 239 Only 50c

COMPLETE POWERED DRAG RACING KIT



This complete drag-racing course includes two sports cars 5 inches long—an MGA Mark II and a Jaguar XK140—a starting gate, guide lines to keep the cars on course, and STOP bumpers for the finish line. Decals and racing numbers are also included, plus easy-to-follow instructions for building. Item No. 973 \$1.00



TRICK BLACK SOAP

Ordinary looking piece of soap. Victim washes face and gets blacker and blacker. When he gets a look in the mirror, he'll be shocked. Harmless. No. 575 Only 25c

MONEYMAKER

Insert a blank piece of paper, turn the knob and... OUT COMES A REAL DOLLAR BILL! Insert the dollar and it changes to a \$5 then the \$5 changes to \$10. A135 1.25



EXHAUST WHISTLE



Just slip it into the exhaust pipe of your friend's car... then watch him when he starts the engine. The howls motor's about to blow up or fall apart—while you roar with laughter. No. F193 50c



SECRET BOOK SAFE

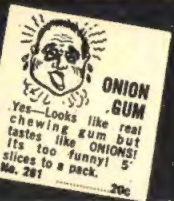
With combination lock only you can open.

Looks like any book so no one would think to look for valuables in it. Securely locked by combination only you know... because you yourself have set it. Tough under-structure is covered with simulated leather binding. 700 \$1.98

WHOOPEE CUSHION



Place on a chair under a cushion, then watch the fun when someone sits down! It gives forth embarrassing noises. Made of rubber, and inflatable. A scream No. 247 50c



ONION GUM

Yes—looks like real chewing gum but tastes like ONIONS! It's too funny! 5 slices to a pack. No. 261 70c



X-RAY SPECS

An Hilarious Optical Illusion \$100

Scientific optical principle really works. Imagine—you put on the "X-Ray" Specs and hold your hand in front of you. You seem to be able to look right through the flesh and see the bones underneath. Look at your friend, is that really his body you "see" under his clothes? Loads of laughs and fun at parties. No. FL7 \$1.00



FLUNK OUT THE RUSH MAKE YOUR OWN "KOOKY" T-SHIRTS IN SECONDS All you do is lay the transfer on, press down with iron and presto! you'll have a crowd-stopping "zany" shirt... in colors, too. Each transfer will transform several shirts. Can be washed, of course. Item No. 239 Any two transfers \$1.00. All 4 transfers \$1.75

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Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied, I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days Free Trial for full refund of purchase price.

Item	Name of Item	How Many	Total Price

☐ I enclose.....in full payment. Same guarantee.
☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus C.O.D. and shipping charges.

Name Zip

Address N.Y. State residents please add 2% sales tax. Sorry, we cannot ship orders for less than \$1.00. Kindly add 15c for postage and handling to all orders.



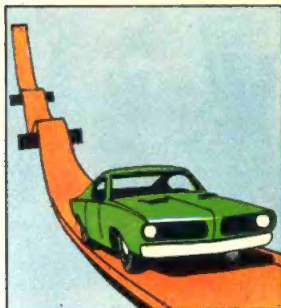
New from Mattel. Action sets for the fastest miniature metal cars you've ever seen!

New Hot Wheels out-race, out-stunt, out-distance any other kind of miniature car.

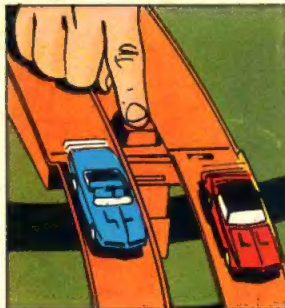
Stunt Action Set. Comes with California styled Hot Wheels car, dare devil loop that sends other miniature cars tumbling, ramps for jumps other cars can't make, trestle, 16 feet of special track, collector button.



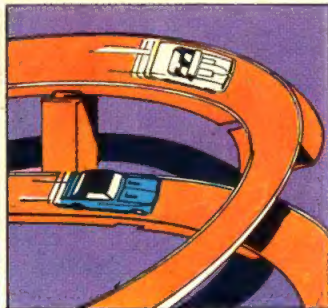
Three other great sets to choose from!



Strip Action Set. Complete with Hot Wheels car, 10 feet of track, collector button.



Drag Race Action Set. Comes with 2 cars, starting and finishing gates, elimination lane merger, 30 feet of track, collector button.



Hot Curves Race Action Set. Comes with 2 Hot Wheels cars, 4 banked curves, 6 trestles, starting and finishing gates, 32 ft. of track, collector button.

Collect Hot Wheels separately, too. 16 custom styled cars to choose from!



FLATTERMANN